Applicant: Shunpei Yamazaki Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-054001 / US5067

Serial No.: 09/898,067 Filed: July 5, 2001

Page : 6 of 8

REMARKS

Claims 34-37, 39, and 41-53 are pending, with claims 34, 35, 46, 49, and 53 being independent.

Claims 34, 35, and 39, and 41-45 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Yamazaki et al. (U.S. 6,384,427) (the Yamazaki '427 patent). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Independent claims 34 and 35 recite a method of manufacturing a light emitting device that includes, among other features, making an atmosphere in a processing chamber contain a first solvent. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because the Yamazaki '427 patent fails to describe or suggest a method of manufacturing a light emitting device that includes making an atmosphere in a processing chamber contain a first solvent. Instead, the Yamazaki '427 patent describes forming a light emitting layer in an inert atmosphere made by using a clean booth filled with an inert gas, such as nitrogen or argon. See the Yamazaki '427 patent, col. 7, lines 8-19. Manufacturing a light emitting device using a chamber filled with an inert gas is different from manufacturing a light emitting device by making an atmosphere in a processing chamber contain a first solvent. The specification of the pending application makes it clear that using an inert gas in a chamber and making the atmosphere in the chamber contain a solvent are alternative processes. For example:

"To condition the atmosphere, a chamber in which the printing device is installed (typically a clean booth) is filled with inert gas such as nitrogen, helium or argon in printing the EL forming material. Alternatively, the chamber is set to a solvent atmosphere containing the solvent used to dissolve the EL material." See specification at page 8, lines 3-6 (emphasis added).

Furthermore, nowhere does the Yamazaki '427 patent describe or suggest a solvent atmosphere. For at least these reasons, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claims 34 and 35 and their respective dependent claims.

The Office Action does not specifically state that claims 49-51 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as anticipated by the Yamazaki '427 patent, but the Office Action

Applicant: Shunpei Yamazaki Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-054001 / US5067

Serial No. : 09/898,067 Filed : July 5, 2001 Page : 7 of 8

does discuss these claims in the same paragraph as the § 102(e) rejection of the above-discussed claims. For the sake of completeness, applicant will address claims 49-51 as if they were explicitly rejected under § 102(e), but does not admit that these claims stand rejected.

Similarly to independent claims 34 and 35, independent claim 49 recites a method for manufacturing a light emitting device that includes, among other features, making an atmosphere in a chamber contain a first solvent. Accordingly, for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to independent claims 34 and 35, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection of independent claim 49 and its respective dependent claims.

Claims 34-37, 39, and 41-53 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Porowski et al. (U.S. 6,329,215) in view of Yamazaki et al. (U.S. 6,420,200) (the Yamazaki '200 patent). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

Each of independent claims 34, 35, 46, 49, and 53 recites a method for manufacturing a light emitting device that includes, among other features, making an atmosphere in a chamber contain a first solvent. Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection because Porowski and the Yamazaki '200 patent, either alone or in combination, fail to describe or suggest making an atmosphere in a chamber contain a first solvent.

The Office Action acknowledges that Porowski does not disclose making an atmosphere in a chamber contain a first solvent. See Office Action mailed July 26, 2004 at p. 3. Instead, the Office Action relies upon the Yamazaki '200 patent to support this feature. However, the Yamazaki '200 patent does not remedy the failure of Porowski to describe or suggest this feature. Rather, the Yamazaki '200 patent describes that all layers can be formed by printing "if printing can be made by using such solvent that the EL material of the lower layer does not dissolve...." See the Yamazaki '200 patent, col. 9, lines 2-8. Thus, this relied-upon section of the Yamazaki '200 patent describes a feature of the EL solvent that is being used and does not describe or suggest a feature of

Applicant: Shunpei Yamazaki Attorney's Docket No.: 12732-054001 / US5067

Serial No.: 09/898,067 Filed : July 5, 2001 Page : 8 of 8

the atmosphere in the processing chamber. Furthermore, nowhere does the Yamazaki '200 patent describe or suggest an EL solvent atmosphere.

For at least these reasons, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the § 103(a) rejection of independent claims 34, 35, 46, 49, and 53, and their respective dependent claims.

Please charge Deposit Account No. 06-1050 in the amount of \$450.00 for the two month Petition for Extension of Time fee. During the prosecution of this application, please apply any deficiencies or credits to deposit account 06-1050.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: December 23, 2004

Customer No. 26171 Fish & Richardson P.C. 1425 K Street, N.W., 11th Floor Washington, DC 20005-3500 Telephone: (202) 783-5070

Facsimile: (202) 783-2331

40255046.doc